(c) the amount earmarked for this aviation emission study?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government has decided to undertake a baseline study for ascertaining emissions from civil aviation in India. The Bureau of Energy Efficiency under the Ministry of Power has been mandated to carry out the study. The Terms of Reference of the Study are being worked out in consultation with the stakeholders.

Offloading of air passengers

1874. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of Airlines including Indian often offload passenger holding confirmed tickets at the last moment without assigning any reason;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this deprives passengers of important engagements and in some cases commitment of offered jobs, resumption of duties etc.; and

(c) the steps Government is taking to avoid such unpleasant situation and to discourage passengers seeking legal remedies in such situations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) As per international industry practice, airlines over book their flights to optimize utilization of capacity, as all passengers booked on a flight do not turn up at the airport. However, at times more passengers than expected do turn up and the airline has no option but to resort to offloading. Air India does have a policy of making alternate arrangements for their travel. They are either accepted on the next available Air India flight or transferred on other airlines, subject to space availability. They are also provided hotel accommodation with meals, transport and telephone facility. Occasionally, letters are given to passengers on request confirming that they have been offloaded, which they can present to their company.

Relaxation of norms for international services

1875. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to relax the norms for international connectivity by domestic airlines;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) The issue is being addressed in the proposed National Civil Aviation Policy, which is presently under consideration of a Group of Ministers (GoM);

(c) Do not arise at this stage.